

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 24, 1998 LB 1134

CLERK: Not now, Senator.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Raikes and Senator Wehrbein announce that they have, as their guests today, 60 fourth graders from Eagle Elementary. (Introduces teachers.) They are in the north balcony. Would all of you please stand and be welcomed by your Legislature. Senator Robak also wants to announce that her grandchild is in the group in the balcony. Mr. Clerk, LB 1134.

CLERK: Madam President, 1134, introduced by Senator Janssen and others. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 13 of this year, at that time referred to the Education Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Madam President. (See AM3137 referred to on page 639 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Janssen, to open.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. LB 1134 makes several changes to the reorganization incentives that we currently offer to reorganize school districts under Section 79-1010. This section provides incentives to school districts whose reorganization is effective between May 31st in 1996 and August 2nd of the year 2001. I thought I would go ahead and explain to you quickly what the green copy of the bill contains, however, the committee amendment does make some changes to the original bill. The main goal of this bill is simply move up the payments for reorganization incentives to the first year in which the reorganized district provides educational services. Currently, there can be up to two years' time between when the school district reorganizes and when they receive the incentives. I feel that it is important to make these incentives available to school districts the first year that they operate as a reorganized district, since this is when they really need them the most. In order to move up the payments, the payment date in LB 1134 changes the time line for when the incentives are determined. Currently, the reorganization incentives are determined at the same time that state aid is certified to the school districts. Therefore, they are determined in December of the school year before they are set to receive them. The problem in many school district reorganizations, which will be